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BOOK REVIEWS.

WARNSTORF, C. KRYPTOGAMENFLORA DER MARK BRANDENBURG UND ANGRENZENDER GEBIETE. ERSTER BAND. LEBER UND TORFMOOSE. 8vo. 481 pages, 231 figures in text. Gebrueder Borntraeger, Leipzig, 1903.

Herr Warnstorf, of Neuruppin, Germany, has long been known to both European and American botanists as an ardent student of the bryophytes and especially of peat-mosses. For many years he has devoted a great deal of attention to the rich bryological flora of the region around his home, and the present work is the result of this study. It will consist of two volumes. In the first, which is referred to above, the hepatics and peat-mosses are treated; the second will be devoted to the "Laubmoose" or true mosses and may be expected in the near future. The work is intended not only for the advanced bryologist but also for the beginner. To this end a chapter is included which gives directions for the collection, preservation and study of specimens, and there are also numerous and practicable keys for the determination of species. In the present volume, 111 species of hepatics and 39 of *Sphagnum* are accredited to the Brandenburg region. All of these species are described and all except a few are figured; attention is also called to many other species which are to be looked for in the region but which have not yet been found there. The descriptions are full and accurate and are often interspersed with biological, physiological and morphological notes of much importance and interest. The figures in most cases represent structural details, which bring out the differential characters of the species treated.

Herr Warnstorf's book is not merely of local interest, but has much in it of value to the American student, a fact which is at once apparent when we remember the close similarity between the bryological flora of Europe and that of northern North America. Among the Brandenburg hepatics, for example, no fewer than 85 have also been recorded from North America, while only 26 are peculiar to Europe. In New England at the present time, 128 species of hepatics are definitely known, 102 of which are common to Europe. Herr Warnstorf describes 70 of these species and alludes at length to 8 others; those which are not mentioned are mainly alpine or subalpine species of limited range. Among the Brandenburg *Sphagna*, all except 6 are common to North America. Aside from the purely descriptive portions of the work, the introductory chapter, which depicts the physiographical peculiarities of the region treated and the characteristic moss-societies to be found there, is especially to be recommended. Little work of this sort has as yet been done by American bryologists.

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